YOU BROKE UP WITH ANOTHER GUY? HOW MANY TIMES HAS IT BEEN SINCE YOU GOT INTO HIGH SCHOOL?!
B-BUT THEY SAY THEY'LL DO ANYTHING WHEN THEY CONFESS, SO I TRY GOING OUT WITH THEM...
STILL, SOMETHING JUST ISN'T RIGHT...
WHY DO YOU KEEP GOING OUT WITH PEOPLE YOU DON'T EVEN LIKE, RIKKA? YOU IDIOT!

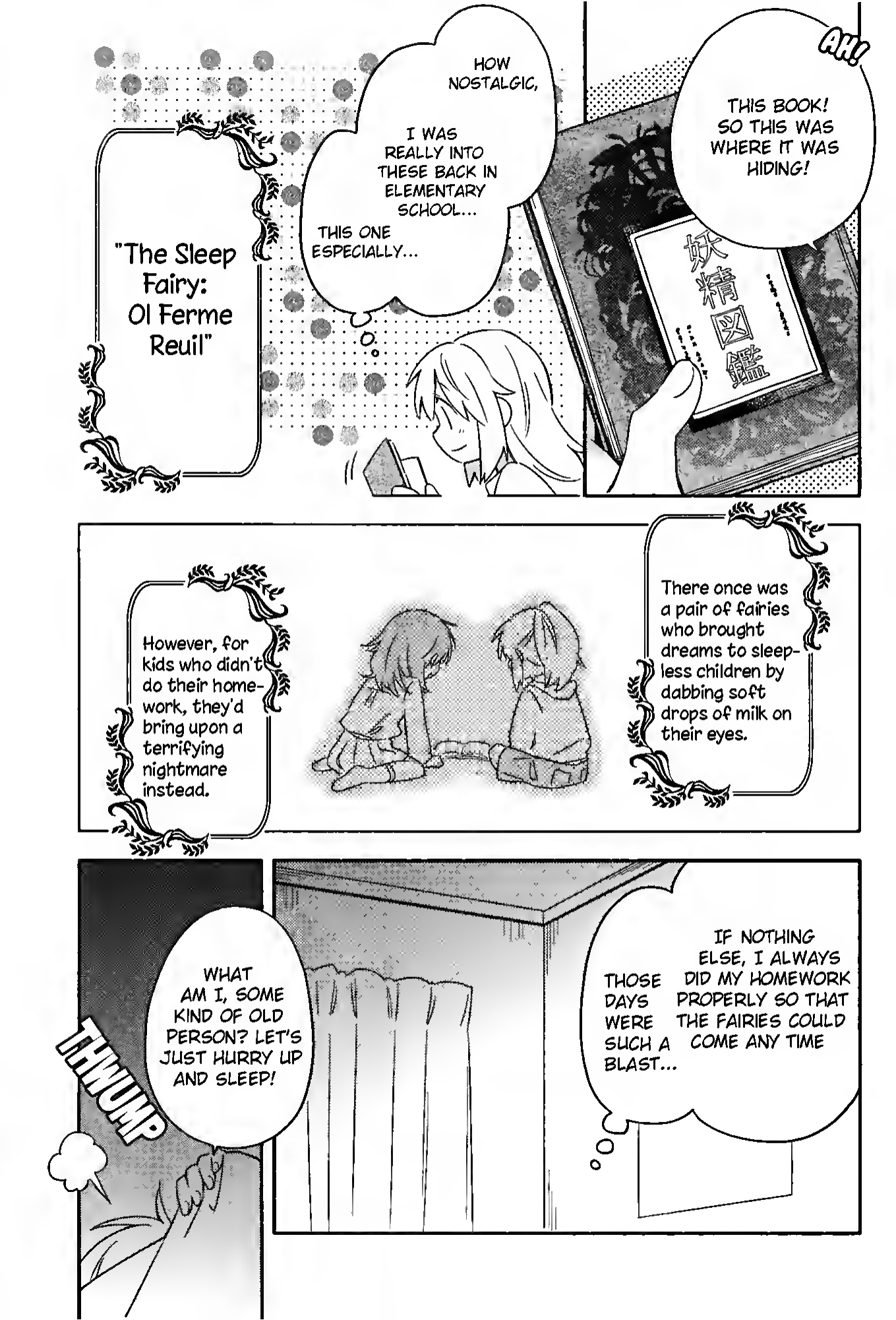
BECAUSE I...
I'M...

SMASH!
SOMEONE WHO'S ONLY POPULAR WITH THE GIRLS, WHOSE NUMBER OF DAYS WITHOUT A BOYFRIEND = HER AGE...
WHO WAS SO ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT FINALLY GETTING A BOYFRIEND ONCE SHE GOT INTO HIGHSCHOOL, BUT ENDED UP FAILING ALL THE ENTRANCE EXAMS EXCEPT FOR THE GIRL'S SCHOOL ONE...
AND NOW HAS A FANCLUB COMPRISING ONE-THIRD OF THE STUDENT BODY...
SOMEONE LIKE AOI-CHAN COULDN'T POSSIBLY UNDERSTAND MY FEELINGS!
1 Curse
NOROI no AOI-chan
呪いのあおいちゃん
あらた伊里
Arata Iri

SNIFFLE
Uuu...
SHUFFLE
AAAH, HOW UNFORTUNATE.
IT'S AN EVENING TALE THAT'LL END IN A TEAR-SOAKED PILLOW.
HAA
LOOKS LIKE TONIGHT'S RESTLESS CHILD IS GOING TO BE THAT GIRL.

FWUMP
GOING OFF AS SHE PLEASES LIKE THAT!
WHAT THE HECK? THAT RIKKA...
CLATTER
CLATTER
FLOOP
OOPS!
LIKE I THOUGHT, RIKKA'S BEEN WEIRD LATELY.
SHE USUALLY ISN'T THE TYPE TO SAY THINGS LIKE THAT...
REALLY THOUGH

IF YOU HAVE SOMETHING TROUBLING YOU, THEN TELL ME...
HM?


"The Sleep Fairy: Ol Ferme Reuil"
HOW NOSTALGIC,
I WAS REALLY INTO THESE BACK IN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL...
THIS ONE ESPECIALLY...
AH!
THIS BOOK! SO THIS WAS WHERE IT WAS HIDING!
妖精図鑑
There once was a pair of fairies who brought dreams to sleep-less children by dabbing soft drops of milk on their eyes.
However, for kids who didn't do their home-work, they'd bring upon a terrifying nightmare instead.
IF NOTHING ELSE, I ALWAYS DID MY HOMEWORK PROPERLY SO THAT THE FAIRIES COULD COME ANY TIME
THOSE DAYS WERE SUCH A BLAST...
WHAT AM I, SOME KIND OF OLD PERSON? LET'S JUST HURRY UP AND SLEEP!
TEKUMP

IT'S NO USE... WHEN I THINK BACK TO HOW WE FOUGHT...
WHO'S THERE?!
RUSTLE
TROUBLE SLEEPING?

I AM THE SLEEP FAIRY, OL FERME REUIL.
I'VE COME TO MELT AWAY THE DAYTIME WORRIES THAT INTRUDE UPON YOUR NIGHT.

DAZE...
WHA-
WHAT'S UP WITH YOU? SOME KINDA NEWBIE BURGLAR?
DO NOT FRET.
I SHALL HEAR YOU OUT FROM WITHIN YOUR DREAMS.
FWUMP
WHERE IS THIS?
A DREAM?

WELL, DON'T JUST STAND THERE.
PLEASE TAKE A SEAT, UEMATSU AOI.
WHOA! YOU... JUST NOW...

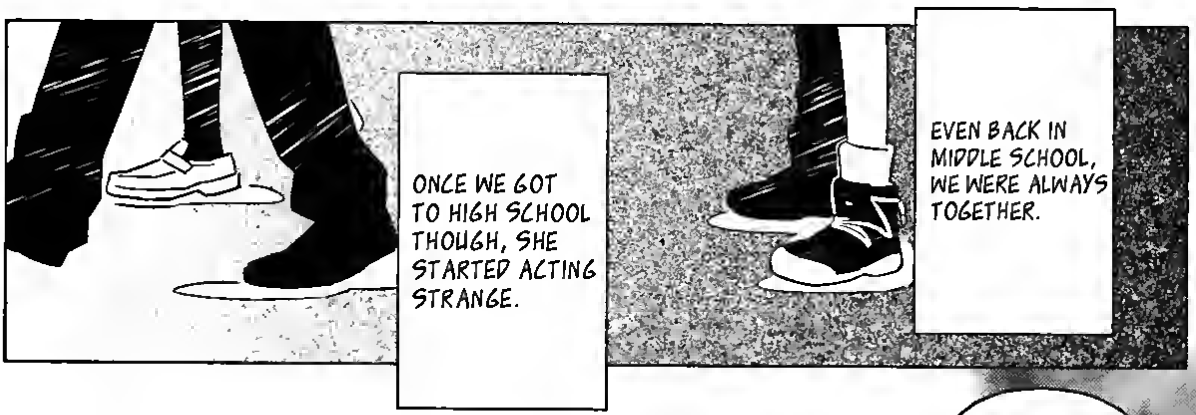
WHAT'S UP WITH THIS GIRL, INVADING EVEN MY DREAMS?
SHE'S SUPER SPARKLY AND STUFF. COULD SHE ACTUALLY BE A FAIRY?
NO, MORE THAN ANYTHING ELSE THOUGH, THOSE CAT EARS ARE WHAT REALLY WORRY ME!
SPAR
KLE!

NOW, PLEASE, TELL ME WHAT'S KEEPING YOU UP SO LATE.
IT IS THE JOB OF US SLEEP FAIRIES TO LEND A HAND TO TROUBLED CHILDREN.
GRR....

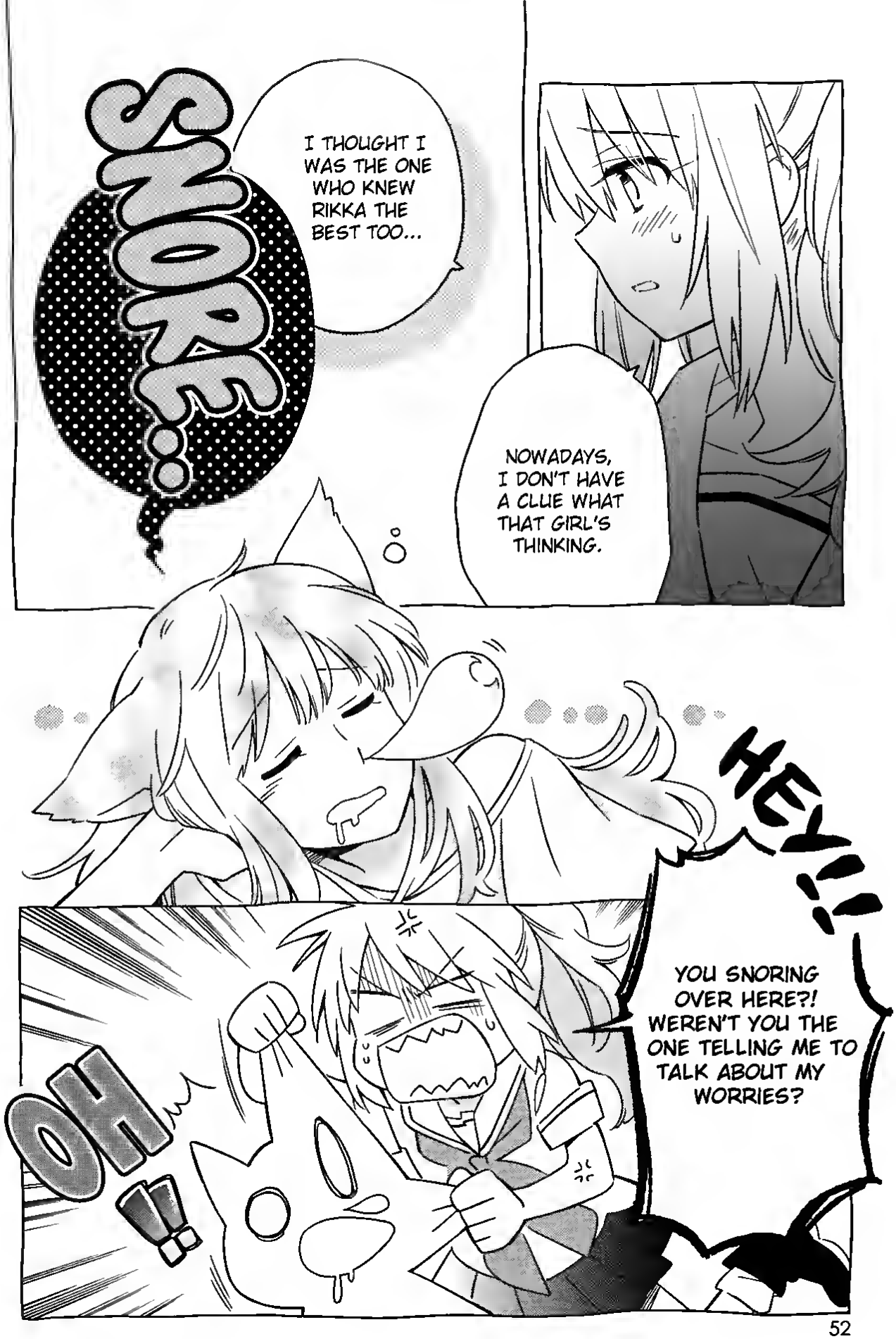
UEMATSU OF THE PONY-TAIL...
PONYMATSU FOR SHORT. YOU HAVE WORRIES THAT'RE KEEPING YOU EVEN FROM SLEEP.
NO WAIT, WHY DID YOU SHORTEN IT?!
PONYMATSU!

TODAY...
I HAD A FIGHT WITH MY FRIEND...
R-RIKKA...
YOU CAN CALL HER "RIKKA," LIKE USUAL, IF YOU WISH.
IT WAS IN THE FIFTH GRADE WHEN SHE MOVED HERE.
SHE WAS A CRYBABY, AND A SHY ONE AT THAT,
SO SHE HAD TROUBLE MAKING FRIENDS IN SCHOOL.
AND SINCE OUR HOUSES WERE IN THE SAME NEIGHBORHOOD,
I WAS THE FIRST FRIEND RIKKA EVER MADE.

THAT'S WHY, IF THERE WAS EVER ANYONE WHO MADE RIKKA CRY...
I'D ALWAYS GO AND BEAT THEM UP FOR HER.
UNEXPECTEDLY THOUGH, SHE'D REALLY OPEN UP WHEN YOU TALKED TO HER.
SHE WAS AN INTERESTING GIRL.


ONCE WE GOT TO HIGH SCHOOL THOUGH, SHE STARTED ACTING STRANGE.
EVEN BACK IN MIDDLE SCHOOL, WE WERE ALWAYS TOGETHER.

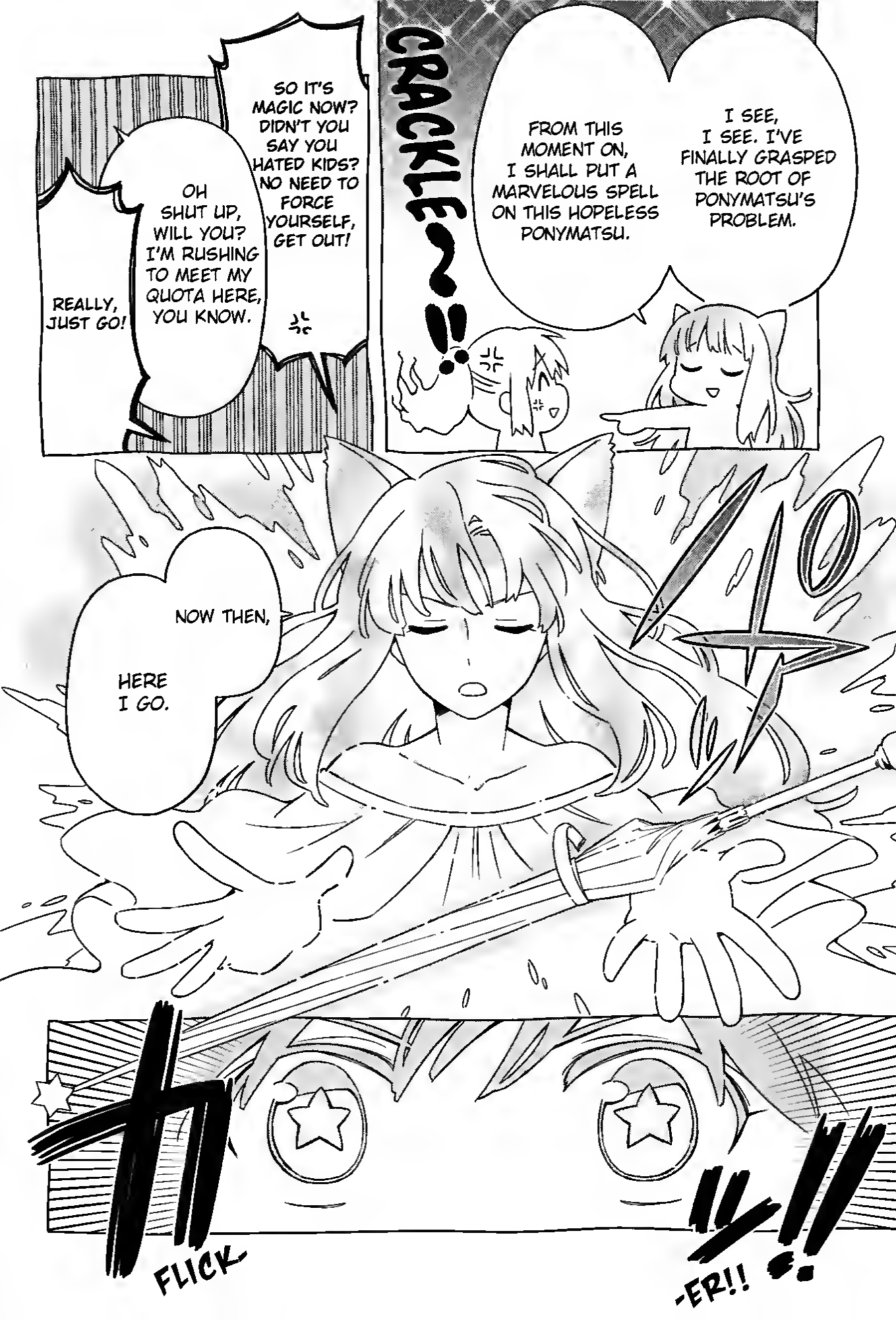
SHE'S GOT THE BOYS FOLLOWING ON HER HEELS, AND... IT FEELS LIKE SHE'S GOTTEN STRANGELY INTERESTED IN THEM OR SOMETHING.
I MEAN, SHE'S ALWAYS BEEN POPULAR AROUND THE GUYS, BUT...
SHE'S NEVER CARED ABOUT THEM LIKE THIS AT ALL...
SO WHY ALL OF A SUDDEN?


I THOUGHT I WAS THE ONE WHO KNEW RIKKA THE BEST TOO...
SNORE...
NOWADAYS, I DON'T HAVE A CLUE WHAT THAT GIRL'S THINKING.
HEY!!
YOU SNORING OVER HERE?! WEREN'T YOU THE ONE TELLING ME TO TALK ABOUT MY WORRIES?
OH!!

R-RIGHT...
I WANT TO UNDERSTAND THAT GIRL BETTER...
YOUR CHARACTER'S SLIPPING A LITTLE, ISN'T IT?
HAA~ YOU KIDS HAVE IT LUCKY, WORRYING OVER SMALL TRIFFLES LIKE THESE.
IT WAS JUST SO IMMATURE THAT I...
HAA—
SO IN OTHER WORDS, PONYMATSU JUST WANTS TO UNDERSTAND RIKKA-CHAN BETTER, RIGHT?
IF THAT'S WHAT WE'RE TALKING ABOUT, THEN WE WON'T EVEN NEED TO USE MAGIC.
THERE'S ONLY ONE WAY TO GET YOUNG PEOPLE LIKE YOU TWO TO UNDERSTAND EACH OTHER BETTER.
OH? AND WHAT'S THAT?
SNAP!
YOU SLOW BRAT! EVEN AFTER ALL THAT I'VE TAUGHT YOU, YOU STILL DON'T UNDERSTAND?! IT'S SEX!!!
WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT, YOU BLOCKHEAD?!
WHERE DID THAT COME FROM?!

UGH, JUST GO HOME ALREADY!
I'M THE IDIOT FOR EVEN TALKING TO A CREEP LIKE YOU!
DON'T IMPLY THAT'S NORMAL FOR GIRLS, YOU DEPRIVED PAIR OF CAT EARS!
PONYMATSU IS A GIRL, ISN'T SHE?
THIS IS WHY I CAN'T STAND KIDS! PILE UP YOUR BODIES INSTEAD OF WORRIES! THINK WITH YOUR LOINS, NOT MIND!
WHAT?!
GRAB!
WHAT? I CAN'T HEAR YOU!
SAY IT ONE MORE TIME, LOUDER!
LIKE I SAID, SE...
mumble mumble
SHOULD SOMEONE WITH YOUR JOB REALLY BE SAYING THEY HATE KIDS THAT MUCH?!
EVEN SOMEONE LIKE ME, WHO HATES CHILDREN MORE THAN ANYTHING, IS FIGHTING IT OUT HERE!
IT'S TRUE THAT PONYMATSU IS AN IDIOT, BUT DON'T GIVE UP SO EASILY!
AND EVEN IF YOU TELL ME NOT TO GIVE UP,
THERE'S NO WAY I CAN HAVE *MUMBLE-MUMBLE* WITH RIKKA OUT OF THE BLUE...

FOR STARTERS, SHE'S A GIRL TOO, YOU KNOW!
AND IS SOMETHING LIKE THAT REALLY GOING TO FIX THINGS BETWEEN US?
SE...
SE...
HMM?!
ARGH! SHUT UP SHUT UP SHUT UUPPP!
WELL?!
HOW HARD DID YOU TWIST WHAT I SAID TO GET TO THAT CONCLUSION?
ANYWAYS, PONYMATSU'S SAYING SHE'S TOO EMBARASSED TO [redacted] RIGHT?
URK... WHAT'S UP WITH THIS GIRL, GOING SERIOUS ALL OF A SUDDEN...
BUT WAS TOO EMBARRASSED TO SAY IT UP-FRONT AND ENDED UP FIGHTING BECAUSE OF THAT, RIGHT?
PONYMATSU WAS ACTUALLY JUST WORRIED ABOUT RIKKA-CHAN,
SO TO SUM IT UP,


SO IT'S MAGIC NOW? DIDN'T YOU SAY YOU HATED KIDS? NO NEED TO FORCE YOURSELF, GET OUT!
OH SHUT UP, WILL YOU? I'M RUSHING TO MEET MY QUOTA HERE, YOU KNOW.
REALLY, JUST GO!
CRACKLE~!!
I SEE, I SEE. I'VE FINALLY GRASPED THE ROOT OF PONYMATSU'S PROBLEM.
FROM THIS MOMENT ON, I SHALL PUT A MARVELOUS SPELL ON THIS HOPELESS PONYMATSU.
NOW THEN, HERE I GO.
FLICK
-ER!!

ゴッ
!?
OUUCH!
WHY THE HECK ARE YOU HITTING ME ALL OF A SUDDEN?!
NO MATTER HOW MUCH YOU HATE KIDS, THERE ARE LIMITS, YOU SCUM!
WITH THAT, THE SPELL IS NOW ATTACHED.
MOOON!

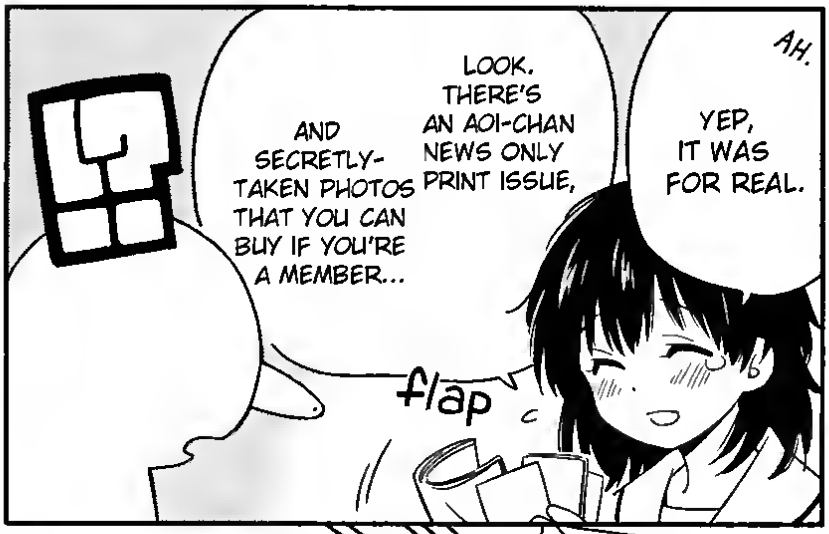
IT'S PRECISELY THAT EMBARRASSMENT THAT PONYMATSU NEEDS TO CURE.
THAT WAY, YOU'D BE ABLE TO GET CLOSER TO RIKKA-CHAN.
SUCH A RUDE GIRL, CALLING MY GOODWILL A CURSE.
IT'S SUCH A BLESSING I'VE GIVEN YOU TOO.
WHAT?!
THAT BACKHEAD HOMERUN JUST NOW WAS MAGIC?!
THAT WAS A CURSE FOR SURE!
YOU'D BE ABLE TO GROW UP, GET MARRIED, DO ANYTHING YOU LIKE.
ANYTHING YOU LIKE!
DON'T EMPHASIZE THAT!
STUBBORN CHILD! HAVEN'T YOU BEEN LISTENING TO ANYTHING I'VE BEEN SAYING?
RUMBLE
RUMBLE
RUMBLE
RUMBLE
BLESSING? IS IT GONNA LET ME BECOME A BILLIONAIRE AND RETIRE TO DUBAI?
I'VE PLACED A CURSE ON YOU THAT'LL DESTROY THE WORLD IF YOU GET EMBARASSED!
SO IN ORDER TO CURE THAT SHYNESS,
WHY DOES THE WORLD HAVE TO BE DRAGGED INTO THIS?!
TAHDAH...!

AND MORE IMPORTANTLY,
THAT BITCH JUST CALLED IT A CURSE HERSELF, DAMMIT!
JUMP!
twitter
twitter
twitter
chirp
DAMMIT..
MY MORNING'S ALL MESSED UP THANKS TO THAT WEIRD DREAM.
THROB
THROB
AND SOMEHOW, MY HEAD IS HURTING WHERE I GOT SMACKED IN THE DREAM AS WELL.

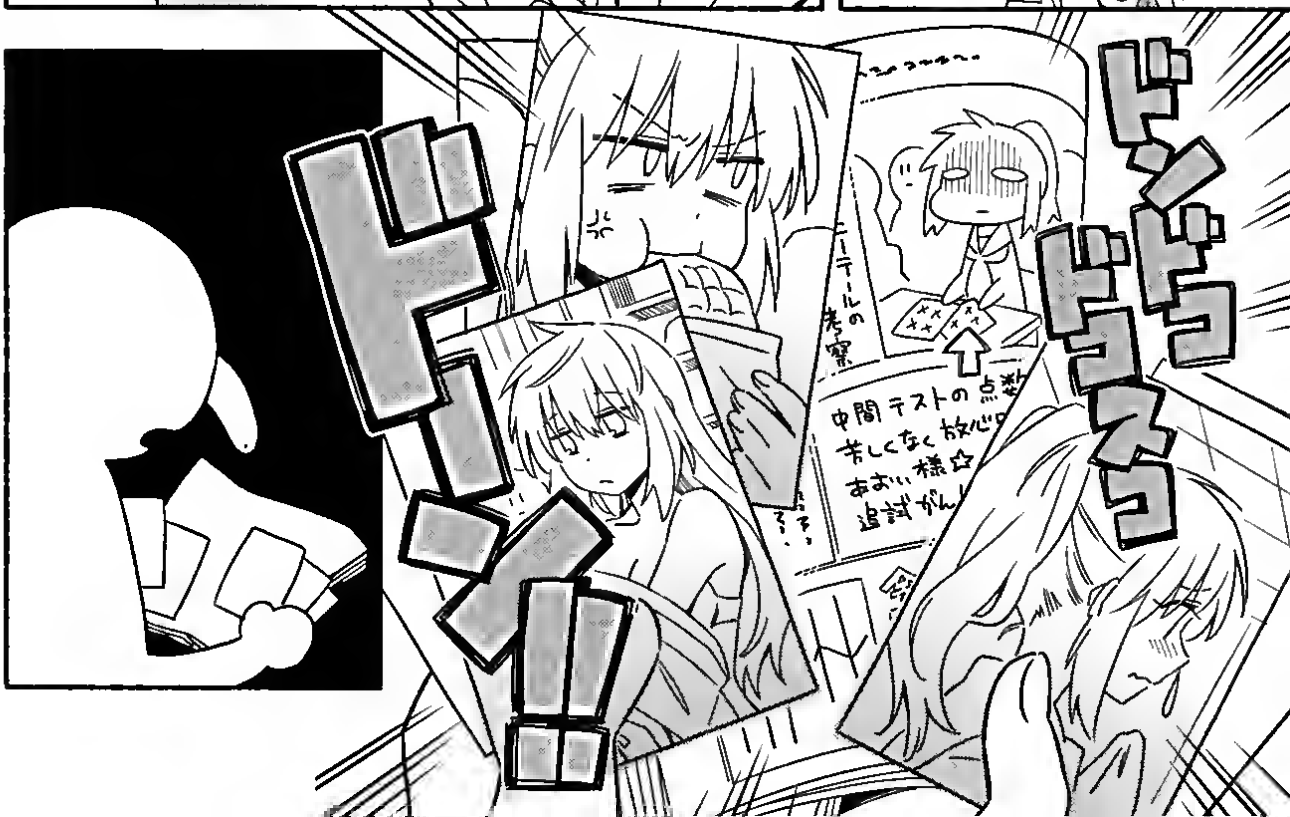
I'M OFF...
SWING
SEEMS LIKE I'M STILL A KID AFTER ALL
And looking like that too
EVEN IF I DID READ THAT BOOK BEFORE BED... FOR THE FAIRY TO ACTUALLY APPEAR IN MY DREAM...
HEY...
GOOD MORNING, AOI-CHAN...
YEAH...
WELL, LET'S GO...
BUT TO HAVE A DREAM LIKE THAT. ARE YOU FRUSTRATED OR SOMETHING, ME?
A...AOI-CHAN!
AND THANKS TO THE DREAM, I CAN'T EVEN LOOK AT HER WITHOUT MY GAZE GOING WAYWARD!
THE MOOD'S ALL MESSED UP TODAY THANKS TO YESTERDAY'S FIGHT...

UM,
THAT IS...
SORRY ABOUT YESTERDAY.
I SAID A TON OF HARSH THINGS AND...
YOU WERE JUST LOOKING OUT FOR ME, BUT I...
RIKKA...
SNIFFLE SNIFFLE..
HEY, DON'T CRY!
I SAID STUFF THAT WAS OUT OF LINE TOO! AND UM, HOW DO I PUT THIS...
SORRY.

WHOA WHOA, LIKE I SAID, DON'T CRY!
EVEN AFTER ALL THESE YEARS, YOU BEING A CRYBABY HASN'T CHANGED A BIT, HAS IT?
A... AOI-CHAN, I'M SORRY...
DRIP DRIP


AND SECRETLY-TAKEN PHOTOS THAT YOU CAN BUY IF YOU'RE A MEMBER...
LOOK. THERE'S AN AOI-CHAN NEWS ONLY PRINT ISSUE,
AH.
YEP, IT WAS FOR REAL.
flap

ABOUT ME HAVING A FANCLUB? WAS THAT FOR REAL?
OH RIGHT, WHAT YOU WERE SAYING YESTERDAY...
YOU'RE [redacted] HELPLESS, AREN'T YOU?
NO WAY-


ドンドコドコ
ドン!!

STAB
OH.
AND IT SEEMS THEY SET UP A PHOTO SQUAD AND CAMERA FOR NEXT WEEK'S SWIMMING CLASSES TOO.
WHAT KINDA PUBLIC EXECUTION IS THIS?!
DAMN, THIS IS SO SO EMBAR-RASSING!!!

WHOA!
SORRY, BUT COULD YOU MOVE A LITTLE...
WH-WHAT? AN EXPLOSION?!
A... AOI-CHAN, AOI-CHAN!
I-IF YOU STAY RIDING ON TOP OF ME FOR ANY LONGER, I'LL...
I'LL...!

IT MUST REALLY BE THE END OF THE WORLD IF BONZAIS ARE EXPLODING...
THE IMAMOTO RESIDENCE'S BONZAI WENT UP IN FLAMES!
MURMUR
MURMUR
S-S-S-SORRY!

I'VE PLACED A CURSE THAT'LL DESTROY THE WORLD IF YOU GET EMBARASSED.
END OF THE WORLD?
WHIRL!

THAT ABSURD DREAM FROM YESTERDAY CAN'T HAVE BEEN REAL COULD IT?

YO!
にゃんこダイスキ
モンパチ
I KNEW IT, IT WAS REAL!
WAS THAT EXPLOSION YOUR DOING!? HUH!?
SLAM!
MY MY, WHAT A BRUTE!
IT WASN'T MY FAULT, BUT PONYMATSU'S FOR GETTING EMBARASSED.
GRIND GRIND
IF PONYMATSU STRONGLY FEELS "I'M SO EMBARASSED!"
THEN THE WORLD GETS ONE STEP CLOSER TO TOTAL RUIN
モンパチ
THAT EXPLOSION FROM BEFORE WAS JUST A VISUAL REPRESENTATION OF THAT FATE.
WITH SO MUCH AT STAKE, YOUR SHYNESS SHOULD BE FIXED IN NO TIME, RIGHT?

IF YOU MUST KNOW, THE FAIRY SOCIETY WENT "CHILDREN LOVE ANIMAL EARS" AND DECIDED IT ON THEIR OWN!
THOSE HIGHER-UPS DON'T KNOW THAT ANIMAL EARS ARE MORE OF AN ADULT FANTASY!
OH SHUT UP!!
M-M-M-MORON! I DON'T CARE WHAT YOU DO, SO HURRY UP AND UNDO THE CURSE!
AND WHY CAT EARS ANYWAYS? JUST WHAT SORT OF PEOPLE ARE YOU TRYING TO PANDER TO?!
WAIT!
RIGHT! I READ IT IN THE BOOK! YOU'RE ONE HALF OF A PAIR, AREN'T YOU?
SUCKEEEP
ARRRGH! WHAT THE HELL? THIS GIRL REALLY PISSES ME OFF!
AND TOO BAD FOR YOU, MAGIC ONCE CAST WON'T GO AWAY UNTIL THE WISH IS FULFILLED!
HURRY UP AND CALL OVER YOUR PARTNER.
I'M GETTING NOWHERE WITH YOU.
ONCE AGAIN, TOO BAD FOR YOU~
I'M CURRENTLY HAVING DIVORCE PROCEEDINGS WITH THAT VERY PARTNER, SO WE'RE ACTING SEPARATELY.
DIVORCE? SO FAIRIES HAVE THAT SORT OF THING TOO?
RATHER, IT'S A SHOCK THAT SOMEONE SO MORALLY BANKRUPT COULD MARRY AT ALL.

WHAT'S WRONG RIKKA?! ARE YOU FEELING SICK?
!!
MORE IMPORTANTLY PONYMATSU, THIS IS IN REGARDS TO RIKKA-CHAN, BUT...
DASH
OH.
IT'S LIKELY THAT GIRL IS...
...EHEHE. HONESTLY, I'VE HAD A SMALL FEVER EVER SINCE THIS MORNING...
?
THEN YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE PUSHED YOURSELF TO COME TODAY...
BUT TODAY... NO MATTER WHAT...
I WANTED TO SEE AOI-CHAN FACE-TO-FACE... AND APOLOGIZE...

I'M SORRY, RIKKA.
WE'RE GOING TO THE NURSE'S!
I WOULD HAVE COME TO SEE YOU EVEN IF YOU STAYED HOME TO REST!
Wah!
YOU IDIOT!
LIFT!
I'VE BEEN SO WRAPPED UP IN MY OWN THOUGHTS,
I DIDN'T CONSIDER HOW YOU MIGHT HAVE BEEN FEELING AT ALL.
SQUEEZE..
LOOK AT THIS...
I'M A FAILURE OF A BEST FRIEND.

Infirmary
PANT PANT..
REALLY, JUST USELESS.
WHY DOES THE TEACHER HAVE TO BE ABSENT NOW, OF ALL THE TIMES?
I'LL CARRY YOU OVER TO YOUR HOUSE.
U
OKAY?
GRIP
!!!
Isn't this Bad?
HEY!
YOUR FACE IS REALLY RED...
IT'S NOT...
HM?
...
WAAA!?
PULL

WHAT...
IT'S...
NOT OKAY...

IT'S...
NOT OKAY...
NOT OKAY AT ALL...
SQUEEZE
!?
!?
W-W-W-WHAT'S GOING ON?!
...YOU REAP WHAT YOU SOW.
AFTER ALL, IT'S PONYMATSU'S FAULT FOR NOT LETTING ME FINISH....

I WAS JUST GETTING AROUND TO TELLING HER,
RIKKA-CHAN ALSO HAD SOME SORT OF MAGIC PUT ON HER.
SNEAK
EVEN SO, THAT UNPLEASANT MAGIC... IT COULDN'T BE...
SORRY...
I'M SORRY AOI-CHAN...
THE TRUTH IS...
I DON'T HAVE AN INTEREST IN BOYS AT ALL, AND...
NO
EVER... EVER SINCE WE WERE KIDS...
I'VE ALWAYS LOVED YOU, AOI-CHAN!
END

MEBAE

Noroi no Aoi-chan 1

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